

**ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
HABITAT PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE
HABITAT ENHANCEMENT AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL**

Game Branch / HPC Project Number: 12-209

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Turkey Tracks (#9029) Water Catchment Redevelopment

Region and Game Management Unit: Region II, GMU 13A

Local Habitat Partnership Committee (LHPC):

- Fredonia

Was the project presented to the LHPC?
YES ☐ NO ☒

The Fredonia HPC has not met in the years past. However, this project is part of the statewide Water Implementation Schedule, as well as the local regional water prioritization, and those processes have been presented to the LHPC in the past.

Has this project been submitted in previous years? YES ☒ NO ☐

If Yes, was it funded? YES ☐ NO ☒ → **Funded HPC Project #(s):**

Project Type: Wildlife Water Catchment Redevelopment

Brief Project Summary:

This project will be a complete redevelopment of the Turkey Tracks #9029 (BLM) Wildlife Water Catchment in southern GMU 13A. Redevelopment will include an upgraded apron material, a larger storage tank, a new walk-in wildlife drinker, and replacement of existing barbed wire fence with steel rail fences. R-panel type roofing panels are to be fastened to a new metal frame that will replace the current biddum tar apron at the site. A 3' by 18' fiberglass storage tank will replace the existing small concrete vault, and a new 3' walk in style trough will replace the existing small metal drinker. Redevelopment of this catchment is necessary to meet AZGFD statewide strategic goals, Arizona Strip water development implementation plans, and BLM objectives for management of mule deer and wildlife habitat.

Big Game Wildlife Species to Benefit: Mule Deer, Merriam's Turkey, and any other wildlife in the area

Implementation Schedule (Month/Day/Year):

Project Start Date: Spring 2013

Project End Date: Summer 2014

Environmental Compliance:

NEPA Completed: Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A ☐

Projected Completion Date: Fall 2012; Currently in final stage

State Historic Preservation Office - Archaeological Clearance:

Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

Projected Completion Date: 6/22/2011

Arizona Game and Fish Department EA Checklist: N/A ☐

To be Completed by: Joe Currie

Projected Completion Date: Fall 2012

PROJECT FUNDING

Special Big Game License Tag Funds Requested:

\$ 46,603.75

Cost Share or Matching Funds:

\$ 0

Total Project Costs:

\$ 46,603.75

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION		
Applicant (please print): Jeremy Felish Wildlife Manager II, GMU 13A	Address: 3500 South Lake Mary Road Flagstaff, Arizona 86001	E-mail: Jfelish@azgfd.gov
Telephone: 928-856-0726		Date: August 21, 2012
AGFD Contact and Phone No. (If applicant is not AGFD personnel):		
Project has been coordinated with: Joe Currie, Arizona Game and Fish Department Bureau of Land Management, Arizona Strip District		

NEED STATEMENT – PROBLEM ANALYSIS:

Turkey Tracks wildlife catchment (#9029) is a Bureau of Land Management owned wildlife facility, originally constructed in 1978 to meet the objectives of mule deer management on the Arizona Strip District. This catchment originally was a cooperative wildlife drinker piped off of a 60,000 gallon cattle water storage tank. The cattle tank and wildlife catchment itself became faulty in the late 1990's. Arizona Game and Fish came in the 2000's and re-routed the catchment off of a 500 gallon sausage tank that they placed at the site, and placed a plastic trough in the ground to replace the faulty metal drinker. The sausage tank itself became faulty and the piping became weathered and faulty soon after its placement. Arizona Game and Fish came back again around 2005 and placed another 500 gallon storage tank and routed it to a small metal drinker as a temporary fix solution. The sausage tank does not have any collection capabilities requiring either the Phoenix Development Branch or the District Wildlife Manager to haul water to it several times a year. Turkey Tracks wildlife catchment is located within the Grand Canyon Parashant National Monument within the vicinity of Mt. Logan.

Presently, this catchment does not operate at all. The existing biddum tar apron is deteriorated and has vegetation growth throughout it causing the catchment to be ineffective in capturing precipitation. The apron is not connected in any way to the current temporary fix storage tank, so serves no purpose at this time. The small sausage storage vault only hold 500 gallons and does not supply enough water for the amount of pressure it receives on a monthly basis. The original above ground 60,000 gallon storage tank has rusted out, is damaged due to fallen trees, and does not hold any water. This catchment goes dry quickly each month, especially during the dry summer months causing a lot of time to be placed on hauling water to this site. The fence is loose and constantly has to be repaired. Cattle intrusions are often, being another reason for this catchment to be dry constantly and unusable for wildlife. Each visit to this catchment requires extensive repair work to the fence as well as water hauling. This catchment should be redeveloped to fix the current failure and to continue to provide a very valuable and dependable perennial source of water for mule deer and turkey in the area.

This water catchment is located in a very crucial summer range for mule deer and turkey. This habitat has seen a significant increase in population of mule deer over the past several years, and is used extensively during summer months. This water serves as a dependable perennial water source for mule deer, Merriam's turkey, and other wildlife utilizing this area of southern GMU 13A.

Redevelopment will improve water collection, storage capabilities, and the lifespan of the Turkey Tracks water catchment. Redevelopment of this catchment is necessary to meet AZGFD statewide

strategic goals, Arizona Strip water development implementation plans, and BLM objectives for management of mule deer and wildlife habitat.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

- Improve water availability and distribution for wildlife, in particular mule deer and wild turkey.
- Improve habitat use and distribution of wildlife species by providing additional reliable water sources within the area while increasing life expectancy and dependability of wildlife catchments.
- Decrease maintenance needs by increasing capacity, and removing mechanical components
- Continue the task through the Statewide Water Development Implementation Plan, and the regional wildlife water priority of redeveloping wildlife water catchments in GMU 13A that have failed or in disrepair due to age.
- Make progress in meeting BLM Desired Future Condition objectives for mule deer habitat as outlined by the BLM RMP.
- Increase life expectancy and dependability of this catchment
- Decrease or eliminate potential water hauling requirements to this development

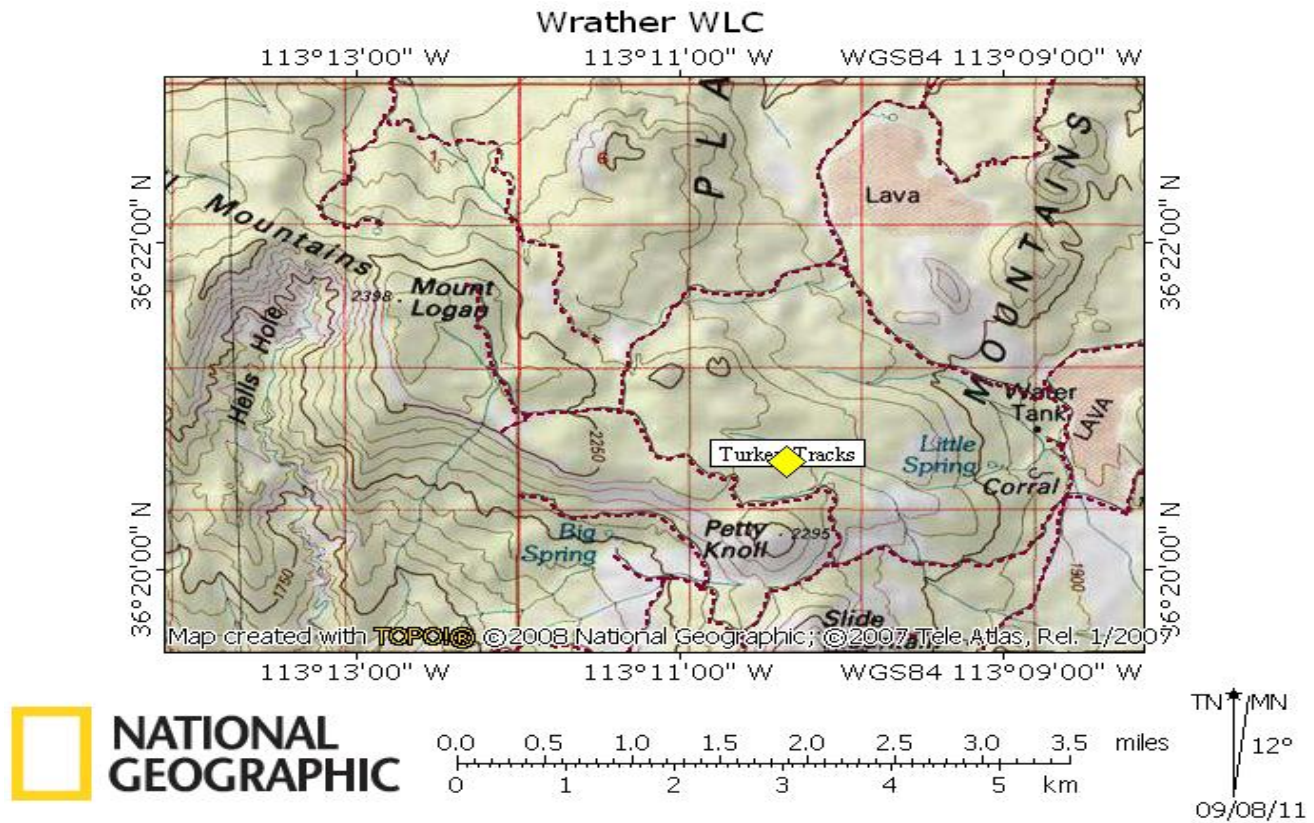
PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND STRATEGIES:

Utilize Big Game Special Tag Funds and the services of a private contractor to redevelop this catchment. Redevelopment of this facility would include the following:

1. Purchase and install new apron packages (24'X72') using metal studs and R-paneling.
2. Replace existing concrete storage tank with a 3' by 18' fiberglass storage tank.
3. Replace existing metal drinker with a 3' fiberglass walk-in drinker.
4. Replace existing barbed wire fence with new 150'X150' steel pipe fence.
5. Purchase and install miscellaneous plumbing materials to plumb storage tank and drinker.

PROJECT LOCATION:

Game Management Unit 13A
Mohave County, AZ
N36.3430881' W113.173045



Apron- porous, has many holes and vegetation



Old Storage Tank- currently does not hold or collect water from apron.



Old run-off tank- Use to hold excess water from wildlife sausage tank to feed cattle waters, currently rusted and broken from fallen tree damage.



Old Wildlife Storage Tank and Float Valve



AZGFD's temporary fix- above ground storage tank that does not have a collection system attached, so water has to be constantly hauled to fill the tank. Possibly cracked as it does not hold water long.



AZGFD's Temporary Fix Trough- direct feed to holding tank no float valve.

LAND OWNERSHIP AT THE PROJECT SITE(S):

(If the project area is private property, please state specifically and provide the landowner's name)

This project is located 100% on federally managed land administered by the Bureau of Land Management, AZ Strip Field Office inside the Grand Canyon Pharaohs Monument.

IF PRIVATE PROPERTY, IS THERE A COOPERATIVE BIG GAME STEWARDSHIP or LANDOWNER AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LANDOWNER AND THE DEPARTMENT?

YES[] NO[] N/A [X]

HABITAT DESCRIPTION:

The Turkey Tracks #9029 wildlife water catchment is located within the Mt. Logan area and is best described as a ponderosa pine forest. Vegetation at the project site consists of ponderosa pine trees. This catchment is located at approximately 7600' ASL.

There are several habitat treatments within the area including a chaining to the north of the catchment that provides cliffrose, oak, serviceberry, and other browse species beneficial to mule deer. This area also provides various grass species such as wheat grass and grama grasses. These treatments as well as the ponderosa forest in the area not only provide habitat for mule deer but also for turkeys in the area as well as for several raptor species. The Mt. Logan Wilderness area is located directly to the south of this catchment.

ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:

Special Big Game License Tag Funds

Costs Category – Equipment, Labor, Materials, etc.	Grant Dollars Requested – Special Tag Funds
24'X72' metal Stud and R- panel apron	\$5,824.10
Fiberglass 3'X4" wildlife drinker	\$3,294.00
Fiberglass 3'X16' diam. Storage tank	\$7,878.00
Steel Pipe fence 150'X150'	\$3,607.65
Misc. plumbing supplies	\$1,000.00
Contractor Services \$ 25000.00 ea.	\$25,000.00
EA Documentation – Use of Contractor 3723.63 ea.	Completed By BLM
Totals	\$46,603.75

Cost Share or Matching Funds (for volunteer labor rates please refer to the worksheet below)

Bureau of Land Management may be able to provide some funding to assist, but it is unknown at this time.

LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:

Arizona Game and Fish Department

- Personnel with the Arizona Game and Fish Department will request funding, provide project coordination, and disperse funds to a private contractor.

Bureau of Land Management

- May be able to provide some funding to assist in redevelopment but it will not be known until the next fiscal year. BLM has completed all the archeological clearances and NEPA work for this redevelopment.

Private Contractor

- Complete redevelopment of the Ponderosa Burn #9753 water catchment

The Arizona Deer Association as well as the Arizona Mule Deer Foundation may be potential cooperators with this project. Participation from these groups is unknown at this time.

WOULD IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PROJECT ASSIST IN PROVIDING, MAINTAINING, OR FACILITATING RECREATIONAL ACCESS?

YES ☒ NO ☐ N/A ☐

History has shown that during travel management planning of the land management agencies, roads that have historic use and provide access to wildlife waters receive priority in remaining open to the public.

PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:

After completion of this project, the wildlife catchment will continue to be monitored as part of the Region II Game Management Unit 13A water development protocol. This protocol outlines facility inspection schedules, as well as maintenance schedules if needed. It is anticipated that this catchment will be inspected at least twice a year between April and October each year.

PROJECT MAINTENANCE:

The project will be maintained by the responsible District Wildlife Manager, who may complete minor maintenance issues when possible. The Arizona Game and Fish Department Development Crew will complete routine maintenance or major repairs of each facility when necessary. As outlined in the project narrative, long term maintenance needs are expected to be minimal. All maintenance and access needs will be closely coordinated with the Arizona Strip BLM office.

PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY:

Jeremy Felish – Wildlife Manager, GMU 13A

WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS *(please use the worksheet below):*

TREE CLEARING/REMOVAL PROJECTS *(please use the worksheet below):*

N/A

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT WATER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHEET

PROJECT TITLE: Turkey Tracks (#9029) Water Catchment Redevelopment

1) **Is the water development listed as a priority in the most recent “Wildlife Water Development Annual Implementation Schedule?”**

Yes, in addition this water is also listed on the regional prioritization list for wildlife catchments.

2) **Please list the Development Branch personnel and date coordinated with for this project.**
Joe Curry, ongoing 2010-2012

3) **What are the estimated annual inches of precipitation for the area? (Mark one)**

☐ 2-4 ☐ 4-6 ☐ 6-8 ☒ 8-10 ☐ 10-12 ☐ 12-14 ☐ 14-16 ☐ >16

4) **Is there a perennial water source available to big game within four miles of this project?**

YES☒ (please complete #5 below) NO ☐ (skip #5 below)

5) **For the accessible, perennial water source nearest this project:**

Name of water source: Aspen #618

Type of water source (catchment, spring, dirt tank): Catchment

Ownership of water source: Arizona Game and Fish Department

Distance in miles from project: Approximately: 3.6 miles

6) **Is the target wildlife species a result of transplant efforts?** YES ☐ NO ☒

7) **Please list any special land management status for the project site (i.e. Wilderness, National Park, and National Monument). If private land, list landowner.**

This project is located within the Grand Canyon – Parashant National Monument.

8) **Please provide the following information about access to the proposed site:**

Type of access (mark one): ☐ 2x4 vehicles ☒ 4x4 only ☐ foot only**

**If foot access only: Distance in miles: N/A Approximate hiking time: N/A

-- Does access to this site require crossing private or tribal lands? YES ☐ NO ☒

-- Please describe any restrictions to public access: None. History has shown that during travel management planning of the land management agencies, roads that have historic use and provide access to wildlife waters receive priority in remaining open to the public.

9) **Please list below (or on a separate sheet) the material type and dimensions of each component proposed to be added, modified, or repaired.**

- 24' by 72' r-panel apron package and steel frame
- 3' by 18' fiberglass storage tank
- 3' walk in style fiberglass trough
- 200' by 200' pipe rail fence

10) Was a site visit completed? Yes[X] No[]

If Yes, please list personnel that attended and date.

- Development branch visited this site in June 2010 to haul water to the site.
- A site visit was conducted June 2010 consisting of the Arizona Strip BLM field office personnel and the 271 and 272 wildlife managers to discuss water redevelopment. Another site visit was conducted in September 2011 with the same personnel.
- Development branch visited this site again in April 2011 to haul water to this catchment.
- Archeologist visited this site in 2011 and cleared it for redevelopment
- BLM revisited this site again in 2012 and cleared it for work

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

VOLUNTEER HOURLY RATES AND CLASSIFICATIONS WORKSHEET

PROJECT TITLE: Turkey Tracks (#9029) Water Catchment Redevelopment

The value of volunteer labor should be calculated at the hourly rate of an employee doing similar work, or using hourly rates from the Arizona Department of Administration's Human Resource web site, plus a standard ERE rate of 35%. http://www.hr.az.gov/HR_Professional/Class_Comp/PDF/alphacovered.pdf

\$0.445/mile should be the calculation used for mileage.

Water Development	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
			\$14.14	
Habitat Restoration and Clean Up	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
			\$14.14	
Fisheries	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
			\$14.14	
Nongame Branch Project	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
			\$14.14	
Misc/office work	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
			varies	
Community Services	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
			\$7.44	
Events and Other	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
			\$14.14	
Research Branch	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
			\$14.14	
Wildlife Area Hosts	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
			\$17.44	
Education Programs	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
			\$16.07	
Totals				